

Message Text

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SUBJECT: VICIOUS SOVIET PROPAGANDA ATTACK AGAINST BUKOVSKIY

REF: MOSCOW 19895 (NOTAL)

1. IZVESTIYA FOR DECEMBER 25 CARRIES A VICIOUS ATTACK
AGAINST BUKOVSKIY. THE ARTICLE IS BY K. PAVLOV AND APPEARS
UNDER THE TITLE "PARABLE ON A 'GREAT MARTYR' AND HIS
'SPIRITUAL FATHERS'." IT IS, EVEN BY SOVIET STANDARDS,
AN UNUSUALLY BITTER HATCHET JOB. PAVLOV ATTACKS NOT JUST
BUKOVSKIY, BUT ALSO THE NTS, WESTERN MEDIA, SAKHAROV, AND
PRESIDENT PINOCHET. AT NO POINT DOES THE ARTICLE MENTION
THE NAME OF CORVALAN, LET ALONE NOTE THAT KUKOVSKIY WAS
EXCHANGED FOR HIM, ALTHOUGH (PROMINENT) TREATMENT

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(IN CONCLUSION) OF PINOCHET SHOWS WHERE SHOE PINCHES.

2. PAVLOV CALLS BUKOVSKIY A SEMI-LITERATE, SAYS THAT HE
FLUNKED OUT OF MOSCOW UNIVERSITY (AND INDEED HAD TROUBLE
GETTING THROUGH SECONDARY SCHOOL), NOTES REPEATEDLY THAT
BUKOVSKIY HAD BEEN ON TRAIL SEVERAL TIMES FOR CRIMINAL

OFFENSES, AND OBSERVES THAT HE IS SUCH A GOOD SUBJECT FOR THE MACHINATIONS OF WESTERN PROPAGANDA ORGANS THAT "IF HE DID NOT EXIST HE WOULD HAVE TO BE INVENTED".

3. PAVLOV SPENDS A GOOD DEAL OF TIME DESCRIBING BUKOVSKIY'S RELATIONS WITH THE NTS, FROM WHOM HE ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED A CLANDESTINE PRINTING PRESS, AND WITH WHOLE EMISSARIES BUKOVSKIY WAS DESCRIBED AS BEING IN CONSTANT TOUCH. BUKOVSKIY IS SAID TO HAVE DONE WORK AT THE LEVEL OF A "PROFESSIONAL SPY," AND HIS JOB WAS TO SPREAD ANTI-SOVIET LEAFLETS IN THE USSR AND TO GET ANTI-SOVIET INFORMATION TO THE WEST.

4. ASIDE FROM THE ATTACKS ON BUKOVSKIY, THERE ARE ATTACKS ON THE ENGLISH ACTOR DAVID MARKHAM WHO MET HIM AT ZURICH, AND ON MRS. BUKOVSKIY WHOSE "INSINUATIONS" PROVIDED MATERIAL FOR THE WESTERN PROPAGANDA ORGANS TO TURN THIS HOOLIGAN INTO A HERO. PAVLOV MANAGES TO GET IN A BACK-HANDED SWIPE AGAINST SAKHAROV, WHO IS DESCRIBED AS BUKOVSKIY'S "SPIRITUAL FATHER," BUT ALSO IS SAID TO BE CONSIDERED BY BUKOVSKIY AS BEING TOO WEAK. THE WESTERN PRESS IS DESCRIBED AS HINDERING DETENTE AND VIOLATING THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. A STORY ON BUKOVSKIY IN THE PARISIAN DAILY L'AURORE COMES IN SPECIFICALLY FOR CRITICISM.

5. THE LAST PART OF THE ARTICLE IS DEVOTED TO AN ATTACK ON THE CHILEAN JUNTA, WHICH PAVLOV APPROACHES THROUGH A DEFENSE OF THE SOVIET POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, WHICH HE COMPARES WITH THAT OF CHILE.

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6. COMMENT. WHILE THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE PAVLOV ARTICLE ARE THOSE THAT ARE MADE ROUTINELY IN THE SOVIET MEDIA, THEIR VIRULENCE HERE IS UNUSUAL. PRESUMABLY THE ARTICLE IS DESIGNED TO DISCREDIT BUKOVSKIY AS A CRITIC OF SOVIET POLICY, WHILE MAKING THE POINT (TO SOVIET READERS WHO MAY HAVE HEARD OF THE EXCHANGE) THAT THE USSR IS WELL RID OF SUCH A PERSON.

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